

500.43772X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Naoto MATSUNAMI, et al.

Filed: April 13, 2004

For: STORAGE SYSTEM

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

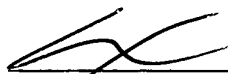
April 13, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 AND 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Patent Application No. 2004-037596 filed in Japan on February 16, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

1300 North Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, VA 22209
Tel.: 703-312-6600
Fax: 703-312-6666
CIB/alb